

Amended Claims

1-30. (Canceled).

31. (previously presented) A printing mechanism, comprising:

a printhead that defines a printzone; and
means for maintaining plural sheets of print media including an exposed sheet stationary with respect to said means during printing, said means for maintaining moving through said printzone during printing by said printhead on said exposed sheet.

32. (previously presented) A printing mechanism according to claim 31 wherein said means for maintaining moves a stack of sheets of print media through said printzone during printing.

33. (previously presented) A printing mechanism according to claim 32 wherein a top sheet of said stack is exposed to said printhead during printing.

34. (previously presented) A printing mechanism according to claim 31 wherein said means for maintaining supports said plural sheets generally across an entire lower surface of a lowermost sheet of said plural sheets during printing.

35. (previously presented) A printing mechanism, comprising:

means for stationarily supporting plural sheets of print media including an exposed sheet relative to said

means for supporting during printing on said exposed sheet;
advancing means for advancing said means for supporting
through a printzone during printing on said exposed sheet;
and

printing means for printing on said exposed sheet as
said means for supporting is advanced through said
printzone.

36. (previously presented) A printing mechanism
according to claim 35 wherein said means for supporting
supports said plural sheets in a generally flat orientation
during printing on said exposed sheet.

37. (currently amended) A printing mechanism,
comprising:

a printhead that defines a printzone plane; and
print media support structure that moves an exposed
sheet parallel to said printzone plane during printing on
said exposed sheet, and said support structure including a
mechanical biasing device that biases said exposed sheet
perpendicular to said printzone plane and into a
predetermined printing position with respect to said
printhead during printing on said exposed sheet.

38. (currently amended) A printing mechanism according
to claim 37 wherein said support structure further includes
a sheet retention device and wherein said mechanical biasing
device biases said exposed sheet against said sheet
retention device during printing on said exposed sheet.

39. (currently amended) A printing mechanism according
to claim 37 wherein said support structure moves a stack of

sheets parallel to said printzone plane during printing, wherein said exposed sheet is a top sheet of said stack of sheets, and wherein said mechanical biasing device biases said stack of sheets perpendicular to said printzone plane such that said exposed sheet is biased into said predetermined printing position with respect to said printhead during printing on said exposed sheet.

40. (currently amended) A method of printing, comprising:

mechanically biasing an exposed sheet in a direction perpendicular to a printzone plane and into a predetermined printing position;

moving said exposed sheet parallel to said printzone plane during printing on said exposed sheet; and

supporting said exposed sheet generally across an entire planar surface of said exposed sheet during printing on said exposed sheet.

41. (currently amended) A method of printing according to claim 40 further comprising:

mechanically biasing a stack of sheets in a direction perpendicular to said printzone plane, wherein said exposed sheet is a top sheet of said stack of sheets;

moving said stack of sheets parallel to said printzone plane during printing on said exposed sheet; and

supporting said stack of sheets generally across an entire planar surface of a lowermost sheet of said stack of sheets during printing on said exposed sheet.